

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/550,707	
			Filing Date	June 26, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Julian Nikolchev	
			Art Unit	3734	
			Examiner Name	TRUONG, KEVIN THAO	
Sheet	1	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	022037-000150US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	4,848,343	07-18-1989	Wallsten et al.	
	2	4,990,151	02-05-1991	Wallsten	
	3	5,108,416	04-28-1992	Ryan et al.	
	4	5,320,635	06-14-1994	Smith	
	5	5,423,829	06-13-1995	Pham et al.	
	6	5,486,195	01-23-1996	Myers et al.	
	7	5,569,245	10-29-1996	Guglielmi et al.	
	8	5,578,074	11-26-1996	Mirigian	
	9	5,601,600	02-11-1997	Ton	
	10	5,643,254	07-01-1997	Scheldrup et al.	
	11	5,653,748	08-05-1997	Strecker	
	12	5,683,451	11-04-1997	Lenker et al.	
	13	5,702,364	12-30-1997	Euteneuer et al.	
	14	5,725,551	03-10-1998	Myers et al.	
	15	5,733,267	03-31-1998	Del Toro	
	16	5,772,609	06-30-1998	Nguyen et al.	
	17	5,772,668	06-30-1998	Summers et al.	
	18	5,797,857	08-25-1998	Obitsu	
	19	5,800,455	09-01-1998	Palermo et al.	
	20	5,807,398	09-15-1998	Shaknovich	
	21	5,810,837	09-22-1998	Hofmann et al.	
	22	5,824,058	10-20-1998	Ravenscroft et al.	
	23	5,891,128	04-06-1999	Gia et al.	
	24	5,919,225	07-06-1999	Lau et al.	
	25	5,920,975	07-13-1999	Morales	
	26	5,941,888	08-24-1999	Wallace et al.	
	27	5,980,485	11-09-1999	Grantz et al.	
	28	5,989,242	11-23-1999	Saadat et al.	
	29	6,004,328	12-21-1999	Solar	
	30	6,015,429	01-18-2000	Lau et al.	
	31	6,019,737	02-01-2000	Murata	
	32	6,027,520	02-22-2000	Tsugita et al.	
	33	6,042,589	03-28-2000	Marianne	
	34	6,042,605	03-28-2000	Martin et al.	
	35	6,048,360	04-11-2000	Khosravi et al.	
Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/550,707	
			Filing Date	June 26, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Julian Nikolchev	
			Art Unit	3734	
Examiner Name	TRUONG, KEVIN THAO				
Attorney Docket Number	022037-000150US				
Sheet	2	of	6		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	36	6,063,104	05-16-2000	Villar et al.	
	37	6,068,644	05-30-2000	Lulo et al.	
	38	6,096,034	08-01-2000	Kupiecki et al.	
	39	6,123,714	09-26-2000	Gia et al.	
	40	6,161,029	12-12-2000	Spreigl et al.	
	41	6,168,592	01-02-2001	Kupiecki et al.	
	42	6,200,305	03-13-2001	Berthiaume et al.	
	43	6,203,550	03-20-2001	Olson	
	44	6,273,881	08-14-2001	Kiemeneij	
	45	6,344,041	02-05-2002	Kupiecki et al.	
	46	6,346,118	02-12-2002	Baker et al.	
	47	6,350,277	02-26-2002	Kocur	
	48	6,361,637	03-26-2002	Martin et al.	
	49	6,368,344	04-09-2002	Fitz	
	50	6,379,365	04-30-2002	Diaz	
	51	6,383,174	05-07-2002	Eder	
	52	6,387,118	05-14-2002	Hanson	
	53	6,409,750	06-25-2002	Hyodoh et al.	
	54	6,423,090	07-23-2002	Hancock	
	55	6,425,898	07-30-2002	Wilson et al.	
	56	6,428,489	08-06-2002	Jacobsen et al.	
	57	6,428,566	08-06-2002	Holt	
	58	6,447,540	09-10-2002	Fontaine et al.	
	59	6,448,700	09-10-2002	Gupta et al.	
	60	6,454,795	09-24-2002	Chuter	
	61	6,485,515	11-26-2002	Strecker	
	62	6,520,986	02-18-2003	Martin et al.	
	63	6,533,807	03-18-2003	Wolinsky et al.	
	64	6,558,415	05-06-2003	Thompson	
	65	6,602,226	08-05-2003	Smith et al.	
	66	6,602,272	08-05-2003	Boylan et al.	
	67	6,613,079	09-02-2003	Wolinsky et al.	
	68	6,626,938	09-30-2003	Butaric et al.	
	69	6,645,238	11-11-2003	Smith	
	70	6,679,910	01-20-2004	Granada	
Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/550,707		
		Filing Date	June 26, 2006		
		First Named Inventor	Julian Nikolchev		
		Art Unit	3734		
		Examiner Name	TRUONG, KEVIN THAO		
Sheet	3	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	022037-000150US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	71	6,689,120	02-10-2004	Gerds	
	72	6,699,274	03-02-2004	Stinson	
	73	6,733,519	05-11-2004	Lashinski et al.	
	74	6,818,014	11-16-2004	Brown et al.	
	75	6,830,575	12-14-2004	Stenzel et al.	
	76	6,858,034	02-22-2005	Hijlkema et al.	
	77	6,936,058	08-30-2005	Forde et al.	
	78	7,074,236	07-11-2006	Rabkin et al.	
	79	7,172,620	02-06-2007	Gilson	
	80	7,300,460	11-27-2007	Levine et al.	
	81	2001/0034548	10-25-2001	Vrba et al.	
	82	2001/0047185	11-29-2001	Satz	
	83	2001/0049550	12-06-2001	Martin et al.	
	84	2002/0002397	01-03-2002	Martin et al.	
	85	2002/0032431	03-14-2002	Kiemeneij	
	86	2002/0035393	03-21-2002	Lashinski et al.	
	87	2002/0040236	04-04-2002	Lau et al.	
	88	2002/0045928	04-18-2002	Boekstegers	
	89	2002/0045930	04-18-2002	Burg et al.	
	90	2002/0049490	04-25-2002	Pollock et al.	
	91	2002/0068966	06-06-2002	Holman et al.	
	92	2002/0072729	06-13-2002	Hoste et al.	
	93	2002/0095147	07-18-2002	Shaddock	
	94	2002/0095168	07-18-2002	Griego et al.	
	95	2002/0099433	07-25-2002	Fischell et al.	
	96	2002/0120322	08-29-2002	Thompson et al.	
	97	2002/0120324	08-29-2002	Holman et al.	
	98	2002/0138129	09-26-2002	Armstrong et al.	
	99	2002/0147491	10-10-2002	Khan et al.	
	100	2002/0161342	10-31-2002	Rivelli et al.	
	101	2002/0169494	11-14-2002	Mertens et al.	
	102	2002/0188341	12-12-2002	Elliott et al.	
	103	2003/0014103	01-16-2003	Inoue	
	104	2003/0018319	01-23-2003	Kiemeneij	
	105	2003/0036768	02-20-2003	Hutchins et al.	
Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/550,707	
			Filing Date	June 26, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Julian Nikolchev	
			Art Unit	3734	
			Examiner Name	TRUONG, KEVIN THAO	
Sheet	4	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	022037-000150US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	106	2003/0040771	02-27-2003	Hyodoh et al.	
	107	2003/0040772	02-27-2003	Hyodoh et al.	
	108	2003/0055377	03-20-2003	Sirhan et al.	
	109	2003/0065375	04-03-2003	Eskuri	
	110	2003/0069521	04-10-2003	Reynolds et al.	
	111	2003/0105508	06-05-2003	Johnson et al.	
	112	2003/0135266	07-17-2003	Chew et al.	
	113	2003/0149467	08-07-2003	Linder et al.	
	114	2003/0163156	08-28-2003	Hebert et al.	
	115	2003/0163189	08-28-2003	Thompson et al.	
	116	2004/0010265	01-15-2004	Karpiel	
	117	2004/0049547	03-11-2004	Matthews et al.	
	118	2004/0093063	05-13-2004	Wright et al.	
	119	2004/0127912	07-01-2004	Rabkin et al.	
	120	2004/0193178	09-30-2004	Nikolchev	
	121	2004/0193179	09-30-2004	Nikolchev	
	122	2004/0193246	09-30-2004	Ferrera	
	123	2004/0220585	11-04-2004	Nikolchev	
	124	2004/0260377	12-23-2004	Flomenblit et al.	
	125	2005/0080430	04-14-2005	Wright, Jr. et al.	
	126	2005/0096724	05-05-2005	Stenzel et al.	
	127	2005/0209670	09-22-2005	George et al.	
	128	2005/0209671	09-22-2005	Ton et al.	
	129	2005/0209672	09-22-2005	George et al.	
	130	2005/0209675	09-22-2005	Ton et al.	
	131	2006/0247661	11-02-2006	Richards et al.	
	132	2006/0271097	11-30-2006	Ramzipoor et al.	
	133	2006/0111771	05-25-2006	Ton et al.	
	134	2006/0136037	06-22-2006	DeBeer et al.	
	135	2006/0270948	11-30-2006	Viswanathan et al.	
	136	2006/0276886	12-07-2006	George et al.	
	137	2007/0027522	02-01-2007	Chang et al.	
	138	2007/0073379	03-29-2007	Chang et al.	
	139	2007/0100414	05-03-2007	Licata et al.	
	140	2007/0100416	05-03-2007	Licata	
Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/550,707
				Filing Date	June 26, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Julian Nikolchev
				Art Unit	3734
				Examiner Name	TRUONG, KEVIN THAO
Sheet	5	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	022037-000150US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	141	2007/0100417	05-03-2007	Licata	
	142	2007/0100418	05-03-2007	Licata	
	143	2008/0015541	01-17-2008	Rosenbluth et al.	
	144	2008/0071309	03-20-2008	Mazzocchi et al.	
	145	2008/0221666	09-11-2008	Licata et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	146	DE	4420142		12-14-1995	Angiomed Ag	Abstract Only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	147	EP	0667 132		08-16-1995	Expandable Grafts Partnership		<input type="checkbox"/>
	148	EP	0 747 021		12-11-1996	Cook Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	149	EP	1 157 673		11-28-2001	Variomed Ag		<input type="checkbox"/>
	150	EP	1 518 515		03-30-2005	Cordis Neurovascular Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	151	WO	97/48343		12-24-1997	Localmed Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	152	WO	98/23241		06-04-1998	Scimed Life Systems Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	153	WO	99/04728		02-04-1999	Medtronic Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	154	WO	00/18330		04-06-2000	Impra Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	155	WO	03/073963		09-12-2003	Counter Clockwise Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	156	WO	2004/087006		10-14-2004	Cardiomind Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	157	WO	2005/092241		10-06-2005	Cardiomind Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	158	WO	2005/094727		10-13-2005	Cardiomind Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/550,707
				Filing Date	June 26, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Julian Nikolchev
				Art Unit	3734
				Examiner Name	TRUONG, KEVIN THAO
Sheet	6	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	022037-000150US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	159	BONSIGNORE, CRAIG, "A Decade of Evolution in Stent Design" Cordis Corporation Nitinol Devices & Components. 47533 Westinghouse Drive, Fremont. California 94539	<input type="checkbox"/>
	160	FISCHELL, M.D. FACC, TIM A., "A Fixed Guidewire Stent Delivery System Rationale and Design" TCT. Washington. D.C. (September 24, 2002)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	161	PONCET, PHILIPPE P., "Nitinol Medical Device Design Considerations" MEMRY Corporation. 4065 Campbell Avenue, Menlo Park. California 94025. PP. 1-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	162	SCHUESSLER et al., Stent Materials and Manufacturing: Requirements and Possibilities/Opportunities, ASM Materials & Processes for Medical Devices, Anaheim, CA. (September 8-10, 2003)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	163	WELT et al. "Coronary Artery Stents: Design and Biologic Considerations" Cardiology Special Edition 9(2) 9-14(2003)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	164	ROGERS, C. "DES Overview: Agents: release mechanism and stent platform", PowerPoint Presentation, 51 pages total.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	165	Definitions of "abut" and "wire" -- Random House College Dictionary, 1980, New York, 7 and 510.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

¹ EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.